Helping children and adults develop skills they need to fully participate in an information society.
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Civic

Active participation in the public life of a community in an informed, committed, and constructive manner, with a focus on the common good.

- Access to information on where to vote, how to register, and precinct information
- Books and resources for living in a global society
- Expungement resources available, as well as trained staff to help with the process
- Partnership with the Refugee Development Center to cultivate a thriving community
- Providing opportunities for teens to volunteer, which develops job skills, accountability and sense of community

Critical

Helping patrons question and examine ideas. Requires patrons to synthesize, analyze, interpret, evaluate and respond to the texts they read or listen to.

- Monthly book clubs for all ages
- A Fake News Program to help cultivate understanding and critical thinking of news sources
- Battle of the Books program
Cultural

Inclusivity and representation in the library’s collections, marketing, and other public interactions. Building and promoting cultural heritage.

- Programs for all ages that reflect the interests of our community
- Displays and art in and around the library
- Providing ELL and ESL materials through both digital resources and library materials
- The digital resource MANGO teaches practical conversation and cultural awareness of popular languages
- Providing marketing and social media that reflects the cultures of our patrons

Digital

Providing resources, teaching patrons, and maintaining up-to-date materials.

- Public access to computers
- On-demand technology help
- Computer classes
- Mobile hotspots available for checkout
- Laptops available for checkout
- Access to emerging technologies
- Teaching patrons about digital security
- Robotic companion pets to provide love and stimulation for our aging population
Early Childhood

The development of skills children need to learn to read and write and transition from learning to read to reading to learn.

- Storytimes for dedicated ages
- Take It and Make It Kits for ages birth to 18
- Crafts and songs during storytimes, as well as in programs
- A variety of programs that promote literacy, including Paws for Reading, arts & crafts, and music.
- Toys and a puppet theater in the library’s youth area that promote learning and play
- Two opportunities outside to learn and play: a Sensory Walk with musical instruments and a StoryWalk® located at Sharp Park
- 1000 Books Before Kindergarten encourages families to read 1000 books to their children before they start Kindergarten
- Summer Reading Program
- TALK text service sends fun activities parents can do with their babies and preschoolers

Informational

Providing people with access to the information they need to work, play, learn, and govern

- The library’s collection – both print and digital – supports information dissemination, as well as supports Adult Literacy
- Provided legal help to patrons through a collaboration with Elder Law
- Partnering with AARP to provide classes and seminars
- A special collection of our Library of Things and Little Things.
- A special section on parenting to help provide information on a variety of topics
- The support of small business development
- MeLCat databases and e-resources to provide as much content as possible
- A new library website
- Financial assistance with smart money programs, tax forms and collections for other non-profits in the area
Health and Wellness

Supporting the physical, mental and social wellness needs of the community in a variety of ways

- Providing diapers, pads and tampons in all restrooms
- Organizing and partnering with organizations to provide meals through programs like Meet Up & Eat Up, as well as providing supplemental meal kits and a 24/7 food pantry
- Offering programs like Color Me Calm and designating meditation space in the library allow for mental health breaks for adults
- Offering health navigators
- Assistance with Affordable Care Act
- Partnerships with Community Mental Health and Disability Capital Area Network
- Offering blood pressure cuffs and fitness equipment for checkout
- Promoting yoga and mindfulness in our youth programs
- Providing resources and support to gain and enhance social and emotional intelligence, as well as empathy for the community at large
- Providing COVID19 resources to members of the community during the pandemic

Statistics

- 236,218 items checked out
- 129,188 items in the collection
- 28,970 visitors to dtdl.org
- 30,589 cardholders
- $34,000 contributed by the Friends of the Library
- 4,842 MeLCat items loaned out to other libraries
- 9,794 MeLCat items borrowed for our patrons
- CreativeBug: 180 classes completed
- Mango: 948 sessions
- Ancestry: 11,077 searches
- Take It & Make It: 2,420
  - 5 & Under: 651
  - 5-8: 594
  - 9-18: 648
  - Adult: 527
- Grab & Go Meal Kits: 653
- Storytime @ Home Kits: 93
- Art Supply Kits: 110
- Gingerbread House Kits: 200
- Teen Lit Kits: 98
- Summer Kickoff Kits: 230
- WKAR Family Literacy Kits: 50
- BookMatch: 105 youth + 50 adult